

REMARKS

The specification has been amended at pages 4 and 7 to effect minor technical corrections and to reconcile the specification with the drawings.

No new matter has been added.

Claims 1 – 2, 4 – 6, 8, 9 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Ali-Yrkko (US 6,256,611).

Claim 1 is amended to more particularly distinguish the present invention from the art of record, particularly the '611 reference. Claim 1 specifies "A method for providing speech navigation of a voice mail system comprising the steps of: providing a speech navigation system including ... an external computer system coupled to the processor remotely from said wireless communication device, and ... inputting a plurality of predetermined voice commands from said external computer ...".

The present invention employs means other than the wireless communication device (i.e. a telephone handset with its ubiquitous 12-button keypad) for inputting voice commands. Rather, it employs a remote, separate computer system coupled directly to the processor of the speech navigation system for inputting the predetermined voice commands. The '611 reference does not disclose or suggest inputting predetermined voice commands in this manner.

Claim 8, likewise, is amended to specify "A speech navigation system ... comprising ... an external computer system coupled to the (speech navigation system) processor remotely from said wireless communication device and operable for inputting a plurality of voice commands ...".

Inasmuch as claims 2, 5, 6, 9, 11 and 12 depend from either claim 1 or 8, they are likewise distinguishable over the '611 reference. Claim 4 has been canceled.

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The withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 7, 10 and 13 – 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ali-Yrkko.

Claim 16 has been amended to recite “An automotive speech navigation system for communicating with a voice mail system ... comprising ... an external computer system coupled to the processor remotely from said wireless communication device and operable for inputting a plurality of voice commands”. Claim 16 further requires “ a memory subsystem coupled to the processor ... storing said plurality of voice commands and a plurality of keyboard characters ...”.

As stated herein above, the ‘611 reference does not disclose or suggest, alone or in combination with the other art of record, the inputting of predetermined voice commands through a remote separate external computer system.

Inasmuch as claims 3, 7, 10, 13 – 15 and 17 – 21 depend, directly or indirectly from one of the independent claims 1, 8 and 16, they are likewise distinguishable over the ‘611 reference.

CONCLUSION

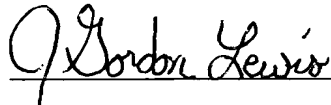
It is believed, in view of the amendments and remarks herein, that all grounds of rejection of the claims have been addressed and overcome, and that all still-pending claims are in condition for allowance.

If it would further prosecution of the application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the phone number provided.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-0831.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. Gordon Lewis", is written over a horizontal line.

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